

SELF REFLECTION AT THE END OF *RAMADAN*

28 MARCH 2025 | 27 *RAMADAN* 1446H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي فَضَّلَ أَوْقَاتَ رَمَضَانَ عَلَى غَيْرِهِ مِنَ الْأَزْمَانِ، وَضَاعَفَ فِيهِ الْأَجُورَ وَالْإِنْعَامَ، وَوَفَّقَ لِأَعْتَامِهِ أَهْلَ الطَّاعَةِ وَالْإِيمَانِ .

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ خَيْرُ مَنْ صَلَّى وَصَامَ وَقَامَ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have been through almost a month of *Ramadan* together. We enjoy being in the month of *Ramadan* which is filled with various activities such as breaking our fast together, praying in congregation, performing *taraweeh* (extra non-obligatory prayers), reciting the Quran, doing *i'tikaf*, donating food and doing other charitable activities with family, friends and neighbors at various mosques.

Among the main goals of Ramadan is to produce a pious servant as stated by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*) Verse (*ayat*) 183:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

Which means: “*You who believe, fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may be mindful of Allah.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ramadan is a month of education, educating every Muslim to devote himself to Allah the Almighty. Fasting is not only refraining from hunger and thirst, but also to train the five senses to avoid doing all things that are forbidden. The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him [PBUH]) often chose to fast for the purpose of worshipping Allah the Almighty and training his followers to control their desires. Much of the damage and destruction to human life is driven by uncontrolled desires. This has been explained by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 12 (*Surah Yusuf*) Verse (*ayat*) 53 which means: “*I do not pretend to be blameless, for man’s very soul incites him to evil unless my Lord shows mercy: He is most forgiving, most merciful.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ramadan also teaches us to pray in congregation through encouraging *taraweeh* prayers as stated in a *hadith* narrated by Imam At-Tirmizi.

مَنْ قَامَ مَعَ الْإِمَامِ حَتَّى يَنْصَرِفَ كُتِبَ لَهُ قِيَامُ لَيْلَةٍ

Which means: *“Indeed, whoever stands (praying) with the Imam until he is finished, then it is recorded for him that he prayed the whole night.”*

Blessed are those who successfully perform the *taraweeh* prayers in congregation throughout the month of *Ramadan*. May they also be steadfast in performing the five daily obligatory prayers in congregation after *Ramadan* ends.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of *Ramadan* is also the month in which the Quran was revealed. Unfortunately, many Muslims are only motivated to recite the Quran in the month of *Ramadan*. How can the Quran be used as a guide and a solution to the problems faced if it is only recited once a year. It is important to realize that the Quran is not only to be recited but its messages need to be understood, appreciated, practiced, studied and spread widely in order to receive blessings in this world and its intercession in the hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The generous nature of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who loved to give charity during the month of *Ramadan* should be emulated by his followers. During the month of *Ramadan*, we see people racing to help the poor, needy and orphans.

Likewise, the practice of giving charity organized by individuals, mosques, government agencies, corporate bodies and non-governmental organizations has flourished. Lucky are the Muslims who are involved in these activities. Hopefully,

such practices do not only occur during the month of *Ramadan*, but are practiced at all times with full sincerity. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 76 (*Surah Al-Insan*) Verses (*ayat*) 8 to 9 which means: “*They give food to the poor, the orphan, and the captive, though they love it themselves, saying, ‘We feed you for the sake of God alone: We seek neither recompense nor thanks from you.’*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As *Eid Al-Fitr* approaches, those returning to their respective hometowns should be careful when driving, always be considerate, tolerant, and start the journey by praying to Allah the Almighty for His protection.

On Eid, Muslims are advised to eat food before going to the mosque to perform the *Eid Al-Fitr* prayer. As narrated by Imam Al-Bukhari, which means: “*Indeed, the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) did not go out in the morning on the day of the breaking of the fast till he ate some dates, and he would eat an odd number.*”

Let us remember to pay *zakat al fitr* before performing the *sunnah Eid* prayer if we have not yet done so.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The conclusion of today’s *khutbah* (sermon) is, that those who have taken the opportunity to worship during this holy month of *Ramadan* by reciting the Quran, praying *taraweeh*, performing *qiyamullail* (extra non-obligatory night prayers), giving charity, etc. are fortunate. Continue to carry out acts of obedience even after

the month of *Ramadan*. For those who have not paid *zakat al fitr*, pay it before the *sunnah* prayers of *Eid Al-Fitr*.

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَانِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.